(b) The main reason for higher growth rate is steeper decline in death rates as compared to birth rates.

(c) To control population growth rate of the country, Family Welfare Programme has a well defined strategy which is constantly reviewed This strategy emphasises an optimal use of infrastructure created involvement of voluntary organisations; improving quality of services; enhancing child survival strengthening of information, education and communication; promotion of temporary contraceptive methods etc.

Development of Roadways and Waterways of Andhra Pradesh

1071. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will thre Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he had held discussions with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh some time back regarding development of roadways and waterways in that State;

(b) if so, what were the major aspects of the discussion held; and

(c) what steps have been taken to implement those programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Opposition of National Convention of College and University teachers to the Concept of Autonomous Colleges

1072. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI M. KADHARSHA:
SHRI HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a national convention of college and university teachers was held in New Delhi, recently;

(b) if so, whether the convention has decided not to accept the concept of autonomous colleges and accreditation Council; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The convention was organised by the Delhi University Teachers Association.

(b) According to reports which appeared in the Press, the Convention resolved that the concept paper on autonomous colleges and Accreditation Council system prepared by the UGC was unacceptable.

(c) The scheme of autonomous colleges has been under implementation since 1978. The National Policy on Education—1986 envisages the development of autonomous colleges in larger numbers. It is an experiment in decentralisation of academic administration and encouragement to innovation and curricular reforms. As for the Accreditation Council, the concept paper prepared by the UGC is intended for wider discussion only. The views expressed by the Convention and those received from other forums will be taken into account before any final decision is taken on this proposal.

मदिरापान तथा धूम्रपान से दिल का दौरा तथा कैंसर

1073. श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि विभिन्न अनुसंधान रिपोर्टों तथा समाचार पत्रों की खबरों में बताया गया है कि मद्यपान और धूम्रपान करने से मानव स्वास्थ्य पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ता है तथा कैंसर और दिल के दौरे के यही मुख्य कारण हैं ;